indigenous and foreign, is also maintained to overcome the technical defects of aircraft. Besides, anti-bird hit measures are also undertaken.

Strengthening of patrolling along Indian waters

3899. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that representations have been made to Government for strengthening of patrolling along Indian waters to ensure that our fishermen are not seized by foreign countries near our borders;

(b) is it a fact that the Coast Guard is not giving priority to such duties to protect our fishermen and fishing boats; and

(c) if so, the measures proposed to give direction to Coast Guard to give top priority to protecting our fishermen and fishery sector?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (c) While a few representations regarding the security of our fishermen have been received, Indian Coast Guard along with Indian Navy are giving due priority to carrying out regular patrolling along the International Maritime Boundary Line (IMBL)/Indian Maritime Zone and guiding our fishermen from crossing over our waters to avoid getting caught in any unfortunate incident. Over the years there have been a declining trend of our boats and fishermen being apprehended by bordering countries.

Coast Guard undertakes community interaction programmes wherein the fishermen living in the coastal villages are educated about the perils of crossing IMBL, i.e. apprehension by the security agencies and issues like safety at sea, search and rescue procedure, use of available communication and safety equipment at sea.

There have been number of occasions wherein Coast Guard has proactively rescued Indian fishermen.

Demonstration of Integrated Air Defence system by DRDO

3900. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether DRDO (Defence Research & Development Organisation) is planning a demonstration of Integrated Air Defence System in exo-atmosphere (above 40 km altitude) and endo-atmosphere (below 30 km) before June, 2008;

(b) if so, whether this follows successful test fire of an interceptor missile from Wheeler Island;

(c) whether this system will have built-in features to double up as a tactical missile apart from functioning as an extended air defence system to engage target aircraft beyond 100 km; and

(d) if so, by when a final decision in this regard will be taken and whether any programme to indigenize radars is to be put in place?